



Disease Prevention Guide For Pet Stores

Disease **prevention** means doing everything you can to protect your birds against disease. When contaminated birds, people and materials are moved from one location to another, diseases are easily spread. ***In other words, when diseased birds are moved, the disease moves too.*** However, if you follow these basic steps and make them a daily habit, you will greatly decrease the risk of carrying disease to your birds.

⌘ Disease can be spread by anyone (sales people, customers, etc.) traveling from one business to another. To protect your birds and your business, all bird-handlers should use a hand-sanitizer (Purell® or similar product) before and after handling birds.

⌘ Employees should wear clean clothing everyday and should practice disinfection procedures before entering the store.

⌘ Isolate new additions to the bird inventory for 7 to 21 days to observe for any signs of illness.

⌘ Sick birds should be immediately isolated away from other birds and a veterinarian should be consulted.

⌘ Keep different groups of birds separated and keep pet birds separated from poultry.

⌘ Keep cages, food and water clean and sanitary on a daily basis.

⌘ Used bird litter and bedding should be bagged and sprayed with a disinfectant and properly disposed.

⌘ Keep insects and rodents away from your birds, as they may carry disease.

⌘ Proper disposal of dead birds is important; either by burial, incineration or landfill disposal. Check on local ordinances for acceptable disposal methods.

For more information visit our web page at www.cdfa.ca.gov or all 1-800-491-1899